



BOROUGH OF UXBRIDGE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF

HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1954

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Annual Report

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1954

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
259, HIGH STREET,
UXBRIDGE.

June, 1955.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE UXBRIDGE BOROUGH COUNCIL

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The work of the Public Health Department progressed during 1954 along normal lines and there is no outstanding event to record.

The population (mid-year 1954) was 56,840—a small increase over the previous figure—and there were 15,583 inhabited houses. The principal vital statistics may be regarded as satisfactory—the corrected birth rate of 15·4 and corrected death rate of 10·2 comparing quite favourably with the rates for England and Wales of 15·2 and 11·3 respectively. The Infant Mortality rate for 1954 is, however, very slightly in excess of the national rate (26·5 as compared with 25·5). This is disappointing, but reference to the body of the report will show that most of these deaths occurred in the very early stages of life. Indeed, research into the causes of these early deaths is actively progressing and it is being found that they are closely related to those causes which result in still births. In most of these cases, therefore, it seems to be a matter of chance whether the child will be still born or will manage to survive only for a very short time. The opinion is growing that it might be well to classify these deaths which occur in the first week of life together with still births—as they seem to share common causes, this step would seem to be logical.

In the field of infectious disease, the principal happening was the marked decrease in measles notifications during the year—this was to be expected as it coincided with the usual lull in the biannual epidemic cycle. There was a reduction in the number of cases of whooping cough. No case of diphtheria was notified—this happy state will remain only so long as the general state of immunity is kept up by inoculation. In these days, when diphtheria is a rarity, children no longer come in contact with carriers of the germ. Previously the fortunate ones received repeated small doses of diphtheria germs and soon became immune ; the unlucky received

a dose which overwhelmed their defences and down they went with the disease. It is easy to forget that only ten years ago, in 1945, there were in this country 18,596 cases of diphtheria with 722 deaths, and only fifteen years ago, in 1940, there were 46,281 cases with 2,651 deaths. Such loss of valuable life, associated with great parental anguish, and heavy expenditure on hospital facilities (diphtheria patients who recovered often were in hospital for many weeks), is being prevented by the simple process of inoculation in infancy. In recent years a vaccine has been developed which appears to give a considerable degree of protection against whooping cough. By combining the diphtheria and the whooping cough material it is possible in a single course of injections to give protection against both diseases. Many parents, unfortunately, are familiar with the suffering whooping cough causes their children and anything which will mitigate this is naturally to be welcomed. Parents are, therefore, asked to co-operate in this valuable preventive work by having their children immunised before the first birthday. It cannot be too strongly stressed that unless the level of immunity is kept up, diphtheria is likely to recur ; surely, also, it is desirable to do all in our power to lessen the terrors of whooping cough.

There was no case of smallpox during 1954. It is still the case that far too few babies are being vaccinated against this disease, and sooner or later, this neglect will have its consequences. The nearness of the airports, together with ever-expanding international air travel makes the possibility of local outbreaks all the more probable. As has been emphasised in previous reports, the best time for vaccination is in infancy. There is then the minimum of reaction, fewest complications and subsequent re-vaccinations are without trouble. The longer primary vaccination is put off, the more likely complications are. This should be remembered when so many must serve abroad either in the armed forces or in the course of business—many countries make proper vaccination a condition of entry.

Continued attention has been paid to the work of food hygiene which is, of course, a normal day to day activity of the department. Continued co-operation has been given by the various local concerns, and every effort has been made by on-the-spot discussions to educate the personnel involved in preparing and handling food. The public themselves, however, are the best teachers—the customer is in the best position to convince the trader that clean food is good business and that any departure from the proper standards may prove costly.

There is one further matter to which attention ought to be drawn. It is being found that accidents in the home are the cause of a great deal of injury and illness—more so even than that caused on the roads. One of the commonest happenings is accidental burning of clothing through contact with an unguarded fire. The Regulations made under the Heating Appliances (Fire-

guards) Act of 1952 should do something to diminish these unfortunate occurrences, but they only apply to new installations. It is the duty of every householder to see that older appliances—gas and electric fires and open fires—are properly guarded. Cases are also frequent of children being accidentally poisoned by drugs left within their reach, or in unlocked places. These cases, and those all too numerous cases of scalding, are simply prevented from happening at all by the exercise of ordinary common sense.

There has been continued close co-operation between the Borough, County and Hospital services. The work of the staff of the Public Health Department has continued at a very high standard, and Mr. Baughan, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and the other members of the staff deserve great credit for the way in which their various duties have been carried out. In conclusion, it should be placed on record how much the Department is indebted to the encouragement, support and assistance given to it by the Public Health Committee.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

O. C. DOBSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

AREA

Total area of Borough 10,240 acres.

POPULATION

The Registrar-General's Estimate of Population for the mid-year 1954 is 56,840.

No. of inhabited dwellings 15,583

TOTAL BIRTHS

Sex	<i>Live</i>		<i>Stillborn</i>		Total
	<i>Legitimate</i>	<i>Illegitimate</i>	<i>Legitimate</i>	<i>Illegitimate</i>	
Males	... 460	24	8	3	495
Females	... 434	23	3	—	460
	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	... 894	47	11	3	955
	—	—	—	—	—

BIRTH RATE

	No.	Birth Rate	Basis	
LIVE BIRTHS	941	16·6	Crude Rate	Per 1,000 Registrar-General's estimated Resident Population
		15·4	Corrected Rate	
STILL BIRTHS	14	14·6	Per 1,000 total (<i>i.e.</i> live and still) births	

Of the total births 34·4 per cent. were born at home, and the remainder born in institutions.

The Rates for England and Wales were :

Live Births	...	...	15·2
Still Births	...	...	24·0

In calculating the Live Birth Rate the crude rate of 16·6 has been adjusted by the Registrar-General's Area Comparability Factor of 0·93 to give a figure of 15·4 per thousand of the estimated population. This allows for age and sex distribution of the inhabitants of the district and enables a proper comparison to be made with other districts or the country as a whole.

DEATHS AND DEATH RATE

There has been a slight increase in the number of deaths from 454 to 489 and the crude Death Rate has increased from 8·1 to 8·6 per 1,000 of the Registrar-General's estimated population ; the corrected Death Rate increasing from 9·6 to 10·2.

	Total Deaths (All Causes)	Death Rate (per 1,000) Registrar-General's esti- mated Resident Population
Male	258	8·6 Crude Rate
Female	231	
TOTAL	489	10·2 Corrected Rate

The Death Rate for England and Wales was 11·3.

The application of the Area Comparability Factor of 1·19 to the crude Death Rate of 8·6 has increased the figure to 10·2.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
In Total Live Births ...	14	11	25

The number of deaths of infants under one year has increased from 22 during 1953 to 25 during 1954. The rate per 1,000 live births for the year under review is 26·6 which is slightly in excess of the figure of 25·5 for England and Wales.

The following table gives details of infant deaths :—

Date of Death	Age	Sex	Cause of Death
19.1.54	1 month	F	Broncho-pneumonia.
11.2.54	1 month	M	Broncho-pneumonia and severe mongolism.
4.3.54	2 months	M	Meningitis. Inoperable meningomyelocele.
20.3.54	1 month	F	Acute gastro-enteritis.
27.3.54	1 day	M	Intra-pulmonary haemorrhage kernicterus erythroblastosis foetalis.
26.4.54	2 months	M	Broncho-pneumonia.
28.4.54	2 days	M	Neonatal asphyxia. Oedema. Difficult breech extraction.
6.5.54	4 days	F	Intra-cerebellar haemorrhage. Gross prematurity.
14.5.54	6 days	M	Intra-pulmonary haemorrhage. Premature twin.
15.5.54	5 days	M	Inanition. Prematurity.
7.7.54	1 day	M	Bilateral Atelectasis. Cerebral oedema. Prematurity.
7.7.54	1 week	M	Ulcerative endocarditis.
19.7.54	8 hours	M	Atelectasis. Gross prematurity.
31.7.54	3 days	F	Intestinal obstruction.
1.8.54	1 hour	F	Atelectasis. Prematurity.
1.8.54	6 hours	F	Atelectasis. Prematurity.
4.8.54	2 days	F	Atelectasis. Prematurity.
4.8.54	30 mins.	F	Prematurity.
15.8.54	3 days	F	Congenital deformity of the heart.
21.8.54	8 hours	F	Intracranial haemorrhage.
5.9.54	1 day	M	Multiple congenital deformities of the head and brain.
28.9.54	3 months	M	Poisoning by boric acid used in powder.
31.10.54	1 month	M	Lobar pneumonia.
19.12.54	3 weeks	M	Congenital deformity of the heart.
26.12.54	50 mins.	F	Intracranial haemorrhage due to tears of the tentorium cerebelli.

CAUSES OF DEATH

The following table shows causes of death as given in the Registrar-General's statistics.

Cause of Death	No. of Deaths		
	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1	3
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	2	2	4
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	10	11	21
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	11	7	18
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	9	9
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	5	5
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	21	27	48
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	6	1	7
Diabetes	3	5	8
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	23	26	49
Coronary disease, angina	52	18	70
Hypertension with heart disease	5	7	12
Other heart disease	35	43	78
Other circulatory disease	11	15	26
Influenza	—	1	1
Pneumonia	9	8	17
Bronchitis	12	5	17
Other disease of respiratory system ...	2	1	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	6	3	9
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	3	5
Nephritis and nephrosis	4	1	5
Hyperplasia of prostate	5	—	5
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
Congenital malformations	4	3	7
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	21	22	43
Motor vehicle accidents	6	2	8
All other accidents	6	3	9
Suicide	—	1	1
Homicide and operations of war... ..	—	—	—
All causes	258	231	489

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the incidence of infectious diseases during 1954 and gives comparisons with the previous year.

Disease	Ages of Cases Notified								Total 1954	Total 1953	Total Cases Admitted to Hospital		Deaths	
	Under One Year	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 and over	Age un- known			1954	1953	1954	1953
Scarlet Fever ...	—	1	11	26	6	—	1	—	45	47	6	3	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	5	23	24	46	8	—	1	—	107	222	—	4	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	3	10	9	17	—	1	1	—	41	1,222	—	15	—	—
Pneumonia ...	1	2	4	11	—	2	30	—	50	66	36	37	17	15
Meningococcal Infection ...	2	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	6	1	6	1	—	1
Poliomyelitis (paralytic) ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	5	2	5	—	—
" (non-paralytic)	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3	2	3	2	—	—
Acute Encephalitis (infective) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" (post infectious)	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	3	5	3	3	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	47	71	—	118	90	117	90	—	—
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	—	3	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (pulmonary) ...	—	—	—	—	—	See Table	Table	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" (non-pulmonary)	—	—	—	—	—	See Table	Table	—	17	42	—	2	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES NOTIFIED					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4	1	—	1	—	—	—
5—14	2	1	3	—	—	—
15—24	3	11	14	1	1	2
25—34	4	10	14	—	1	1
35—44	1	1	2	—	1	1
45—54	3	1	4	—	—	—
55—64	3	—	3	—	—	—
65 and up	1	2	3	—	—	—
TOTALS	18	26	44	1	3	4

AGE PERIODS	DEATHS					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—34	—	1	1	—	—	—
35—44	1	—	1	—	—	—
45—54	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—64	1	—	1	—	—	—
65 and up	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	2	1	3	—	—	—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the numbers of children immunised during the year at Middlesex County Council Welfare Clinics or by private medical practitioners.

AGE	Primary Immunisation			Reinforcing Injections		
	Diph- theria only	Combined Diph- theria and Whooping Cough	Whooping Cough only	Diph- theria only	Combined Diph- theria and Whooping Cough	Whooping Cough only
Under 1	42	418	2	—	—	—
1	34	192	4	—	1	—
2	9	32	5	—	2	—
3	3	21	5	—	4	—
4	6	14	4	12	30	—
5—9	31	15	3	190	346	3
10—14	2	—	2	34	6	—
15 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	127	692	25	236	389	3

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The following table shows the number of vaccinations carried out during the year under arrangements made by the Middlesex County Council.

Age	Vaccination	Revaccination
Under 1	409	—
1	20	—
2—4	27	3
5—14	29	16
15 and over	24	110
TOTALS	509	129

REPORT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES

The following summary shows the inspections and other duties carried out by the Inspectorate during the year 1954, when a total of 8,027 visits were made.

Houses inspected under Housing Act ...	...	...	1,064
Premises visited under Public Health Acts .....	...	...	546
Re-visits to houses and other premises ...	...	...	1,280
Visits to works in progress ...	...	...	284
Unclassified visits ...	...	...	363
Visits to factories ...	...	...	241
„ outworkers' premises ...	...	...	40
„ old metal dealers' premises ...	...	...	10
„ food premises (see table on page 18) ...	...	...	1,767
„ slaughterhouses ...	...	...	57
„ piggeries ...	...	...	81
„ gypsy encampments and caravans ...	...	...	90
„ tents, vans, sheds ...	...	...	4
„ common lodging houses ...	...	...	6
„ school premises ...	...	...	31
„ public conveniences ...	...	...	96
„ swimming pool ...	...	...	14
„ petroleum installations ...	...	...	197
„ canal boats ...	...	...	5
Visits <i>re</i> Shops Acts ...	...	...	171
„ Pet Animals Act ...	...	...	11
„ unsound food ...	...	...	201
„ nuisances from animals ...	...	...	7
„ accumulations of refuse ...	...	...	57
„ water supply ...	...	...	64
„ drainage and cesspools ...	...	...	331
„ ponds and ditches ...	...	...	13
„ rats and mice ...	...	...	176
„ insect pests ...	...	...	123
„ infectious diseases ...	...	...	119
„ alleged overcrowding ...	...	...	30
„ Council houses ...	...	...	79
„ permitted numbers of occupants ...	...	...	25
„ smoke nuisances ...	...	...	31
Smoke observations ...	...	...	11
Council houses inspected ...	...	...	53
Water samples taken ...	...	...	44
Milk samples taken ...	...	...	28
Ice cream samples taken ...	...	...	39
Interviews ...	...	...	238
<hr/>			
Informal Notices served ...	...	...	510
Statutory Notices served ...	...	...	8

HOUSING

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	463
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	712
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included in sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	24
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	254

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	229
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3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(a) *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	4
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	10
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(b) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	3
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	3
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(c) *Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	7
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	13
(3) Number of dwelling houses closed in pursuance of undertakings given by owners	5

(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made under Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
(5) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
<i>(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Acts, 1936.</i>								
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

With reference to the twenty-four properties in Item 1 (3) above, the following action was taken :—

(i) Demolition Orders were made in respect of the under-mentioned properties :—

White House Cottage, Northwood Road, Harefield.

80, 82, 84, High Street, Harefield.

1 and 2, Barns Farm Cottages, Harlington Road, Hillingdon.

91, Cowley Road, Uxbridge.

91, Cowley Road, Uxbridge, was demolished during the year under review.

In addition, the following twelve properties were demolished during 1954 following Demolition Orders made or informal action taken in previous years :—

138, High Street, Harefield.

3, Newdigate Cottages, Church Hill, Harefield.

1, 3, 4, 5, Ash's Cottages, Field Heath Road, Hillingdon.

10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, Chapel Street, Uxbridge.

(ii) Closing Orders, in accordance with Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, were made in respect of the under-mentioned properties :—

8, Gutteridge Street, Hillingdon.

Cedar Cottage, Uxbridge Road, Hillingdon.

50, Austin Waye, Uxbridge.

12, Barnsfield Place, Uxbridge.

(iii) Closing Orders, in accordance with Section 3 (1) of the Housing Act, 1949, were made in respect of the under-mentioned properties :—

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, The Almshouses, Church Hill, Harefield.

(iv) In respect of the under-mentioned properties undertakings were given in accordance with Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, and accepted by the Council, that the premises would not be used for human habitation until they were either demolished or works of repair carried out which would render the houses fit to be used as living accommodation :—

122, Pield Heath Road, Hillingdon.
8, 9, Chapel Street, Uxbridge.

(v) Undertakings in the terms set out in sub-paragraph (iv) above, were given in respect of the under-mentioned properties but in these instances detailed specifications of works to render the premises fit for human habitation were submitted on behalf of the owner, and accepted by the Council ; at the time of writing this report these works are still in progress :—

1 and 2, Springwell Cottages, Springwell Lane, Harefield.

With reference to Item 3 (d) (1) above, a Closing Order was made in respect of three basement rooms at the under-mentioned property :—

76, Harefield Road, Uxbridge.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

Following the coming into force of the above Act on 30th August, 1954, six applications for Certificates of Disrepair had been received by the end of the year. In each case conditions were found to justify the issue of a Certificate.

Upon completion of the required repairs Certificates of Revocation were issued in two instances.

NUISANCES

Eight hundred and forty-six individual complaints were received relating to the following matters :—

Insanitary condition of house	...	...	5
General defects	...	...	44
Defective chimneys and fireplaces	...	...	13
„ walls and ceilings	...	...	9
„ floors	...	...	2
„ roofs and guttering	...	...	19
„ doors and windows	...	...	5
„ drains and sanitary fittings	...	...	151
„ water storage tanks and fittings	...	...	38
„ sinks and wash-hand basins	...	...	9
„ dustbins	...	...	32

Nuisance from dampness	...	...	...	30
Overcrowding	...	...	...	3
Verminous premises	...	...	...	9
Wasps' nests	...	...	...	52
Accumulation of refuse or manure	...	...	...	41
Nuisance from keeping animals	...	...	...	16
„ „ gypsies	...	...	...	3
„ „ rats or mice	...	...	...	298
„ „ ponds or ditches	...	...	...	5
„ „ insect pests	...	...	...	36
„ „ smoke	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous nuisances...	...	...	...	23

Each of the above complaints was investigated and where conditions were found justifying action by the Department the appropriate steps were taken.

FACTORIES

The following tables show the number of inspections made, defects found, and the result of action taken.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupier prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	21	12	5	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	168	225	21	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	5	4	—	—
TOTAL	194	241	26	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	2	2	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	24	22	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to home work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	28	26	—	1	—

3. HOME-WORK.

During the year 40 visits of inspection were made to the homes of outworkers residing in the Borough; all the premises were found to be in a satisfactory condition.

PETROLEUM INSTALLATIONS

During the year 197 visits were paid to the 98 premises licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit, petroleum mixtures and carbide of calcium.

In continuation of the policy commenced in November, 1951, the testing of underground storage tanks of twenty or more years, existence has been carried out during the year. Two such tanks were subjected to the air pressure test and both were found to be satisfactory.

DEALERS IN OLD METAL AND MARINE STORES

On 12th January, 1953, the Secretary of State made an Order, at the request of the Council, bringing into operation the provisions of Section 86 of the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907, which requires dealers in old metal to register their names and addresses with the Council and keep records as laid down in the Act.

The names and address of ten dealers are registered, and all the premises were inspected during the year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

There are no heavy industries in the District and such industrial undertakings as exist are in the main situated in the township of Uxbridge, where the establishment of an industrial estate is tending to concentrate these activities in a selected zone. Apart from the foregoing there is a number of large establishments using commercial-type steam raising plant, *i.e.* factories, hospital and schools, and these are principally located in Hillingdon and Harefield.

A total of 11 timed observations were made during the year, involving two factories, and in no instance was smoke observed to be emitted in such quantity as to be a nuisance.

For the purpose of recording smoke observations the standard of measurement used is that laid down by the Ministry of Health Model Byelaw in relation to black smoke. Although this Byelaw is not in operation in Uxbridge it is considered reasonable that the degree of efficiency of industrial plant should be such as to be comparable to that required under the Byelaw.

WATER SUPPLY

The piped water supply of the District is provided from the mains of the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company, and has been adequate for the requirements of the District.

During the year ten samples of water have been taken in the Uxbridge town area, the district formerly served by the Council's water undertaking, and thirteen samples taken in the outer areas. In addition, following complaints concerning the taste or colour of the water, seven samples were collected from six different premises. All of the thirty samples were submitted to the Regional Public Health Laboratory for examination. Each was found to be of high bacterial purity and safe for drinking purposes.

The number of dwelling-houses and the population supplied from the public mains are estimated to be as follows :—

		<i>Number of</i> <i>Dwelling-houses</i>	<i>Population</i>
Direct to the house	...	15,578	56,822
By means of stand-pipes	...	5	18

A sample of water taken from the distribution system at Harefield Hospital during the year was found to be satisfactory.

During the year thirteen samples have been taken from the deep wells supplying seven factories where water is used for industrial purposes, food preparation and/or drinking purposes. The Laboratory reports showed the water from all the wells to be satisfactory.

SWIMMING POOL

The Council's swimming pool was open to the public during the season May to September.

As in previous years the routine examination of the swimming pool water was carried out throughout the season, frequent tests being made to establish the degree of free chlorine present in the water. The results fluctuated according to the number of bathers using the pool, but on no occasion was it found that the amount of available free chlorine present was reduced below the minimum desirable standard.

FOOD HYGIENE

The supervision of all food premises has been carried out during the year, not only in respect of the sanitary circumstances obtaining, but in the practice of hygienic handling of food.

The following tables show a broad indication of the nature and extent of the inspections made and action taken.

(a) INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Type of Premises	Premises		Visits Made	Notices Served
	Total No.	Inspected		
Restaurants and Cafes ...	72	72	446	21
Industrial Canteens	38	38	79	26
Ice Cream Premises	99	79	224	3
Licensed Premises	67	41	63	5
Dairies and Milk Distributors' Premises	16	16	20	2
Preserved Food Premises ...	17	17	137	—
Bakehouses	15	15	79	4
Bakers' Shops	19	18	68	7
Butchers' Shops	34	34	142	14
Grocer Shops and Wholesale Depots	96	79	285	32
Wet Fish Shops	13	13	36	1
Fried Fish Shops	12	12	35	5
Confectioners' Shops	64	36	72	—
Greengrocers' Shops	30	29	57	10
Food Hawkers' Premises ...	4	4	24	2
TOTALS	596	503	1,767	132

(b) REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES.

Act or Regulation	Type of Premises	No. of Premises
Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14...	Ice Cream	73
	Preserved Food	17
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 ...	Dairies	1
	Distributors of Milk	15
Middlesex County Council Act, 1950, Section 11	Food Hawkers	4
		110

(c) DEFECTS REMEDIED.

Water Closets:

Insufficient closet accommodation	...	...	2
Defective seats	...	...	1
Want of light and ventilation	...	...	1
Not properly screened	...	...	1
Lack of or defective intervening space	...	...	1
Dirty W.C. compartment	...	...	1
Lack of " Hand Washing " notice	...	...	5
			— 12

Drainage:

Defective drains	...	...	4
Defective or insufficient gullies	...	...	1
Defective manhole covers	...	...	4
			— 9

Sinks:

Want of sink	...	...	2
Hot water required to sink	...	...	7
Cold water required to sink	...	...	3
Defective waste pipes	...	...	1
			— 13

Washing Facilities for Staff:

Absence of or defective hand basin	...	...	8
Absence of hot water	...	...	9
Absence of cold water	...	...	8
Provision of towels and soap	...	...	10
			— 35

Uncleanliness:

Personal	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Food Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Preparation Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Dining Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Food delivery vans	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Refrigerators	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Handling of foodstuffs	...	...	...	...	...	...	37

— 96

Utensils:

Defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Unclean	...	...	...	...	...	...	18

— 22

Refuse:

Defective or insufficient dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Accumulations of offensive matter	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

— 6

Rats and Mice:

Number of infestations	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Rat-proofing required	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

— 37

General Defects:

Defective plaster (number of rooms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Insanitary condition of walls and ceilings (number of rooms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Inadequate ventilation (number of rooms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Inadequate lighting (number of rooms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective floors	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective food stores	5
Defective yard paving	1

— 28

Ice Cream:

Unhygienic serving methods	1
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— 1

Animals:

Nuisance from keeping animals	1
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— 1

Miscellaneous	4
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— 4

TOTAL 264

MEAT INSPECTION

(i) Butcher's Shops.

During the year 14 cwts. 5 lbs. of fresh meat, home killed and imported, was found to be unfit for human consumption and destroyed.

(ii) Slaughterhouses.

There is one slaughterhouse in the area where pigs are killed regularly throughout the year, and the following table shows the number of animals slaughtered during 1954. In all cases the carcase and organs were inspected.

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	—	—	—	—	192
Number inspected	—	—	—	—	192
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ...					—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...					2
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...					1·04%
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ...					—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...					3
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis					1·56%

The total weight of diseased and unsound meat included in the above table is shown below :—

Class of Animal	Tuberculosis			Other Diseases			Total lbs.
	No. of animals		lbs.	No. of animals		lbs.	
	Whole carcase	Part carcase and offals		Whole carcase	Part carcase and offals		
Pigs ...	—	3	42	—	2	—	9

UNSOUND FOOD

(i) The total amount of food (other than butcher's meat) surrendered for destruction during the year was 2 tons 3 cwts. 101 lbs., as shown in the following table.

<i>Class of Food</i>							<i>Quantity</i>		
							<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Meat—tinned	...	...	...	...	...	...		10	91
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	...			14
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	...			8
Soup—tinned	...	...	...	...	...	...			22
Fish—tinned	...	...	...	...	...	...			85
Fish—wet	...	...	...	...	...	...		4	85
Butter and Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	...		1	21
Cooking Fat	...	...	...	...	...	...			30
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	...			49
Milk—tinned	...	...	...	...	...	...		4	22
Milk—dried...	...	...	...	...	...	...			15
Cream—tinned	...	...	...	...	...	...			3
Fruit—tinned	...	...	...	...	...	...		10	20
Fruit—dried	...	...	...	...	...	...		1	45
Vegetables—tinned...	...	...	...	...	...	...		5	91
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	...			2
Jam and Marmalade	...	...	...	...	...	...			90
Flour	...	...	...	...	...	...		1	74
Cereals and Cake	...	...	...	...	...	...			38
Custard Powder	...	...	...	...	...	...			58
Pickles and Sauces	...	...	...	...	...	...			3
Liquid egg	...	...	...	...	...	...			12
Coffee	...	...	...	...	...	...			3
Cocoa	...	...	...	...	...	...			1
Salt	...	...	...	...	...	...			3
							2	3	101

In the absence of a local authority refuse destructor all unsound food for disposal is treated with an application of strong disinfectant, containers being broken open for this purpose, and is then buried under supervision of a member of the staff of the Public Health Department at the Council's refuse tip.

PUBLIC HEALTH (IMPORTED FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1937

Northolt Airport, which is situated in part within the area of this authority, is a Customs Port and the administrative buildings are in the Borough of Uxbridge. This local authority is, therefore, a "sanitary authority" for the purposes of the above Regulations, which prohibit the importation of certain articles of food into this country and lay down conditions which must be observed in respect of other foodstuffs.

During the year there has been very little activity in the department in connection with food imports into this country through Northolt Airport, and in the autumn the use of the airport for civil flying was discontinued.

MILK SUPPLY

The responsibilities of this Authority under the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders are limited to the supervision of dairies and retail distributors' premises, in respect of which twenty visits were made during the year.

(a) PREMISES AND DISTRIBUTORS.

The following table shows the number of registered premises and distributors within the district :—

Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Retail distributors	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Retail distributors from other districts	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Thirty-two principal and eight supplementary licences were granted for the sale of designated milks.

(b) MILK IN SCHOOLS SCHEME.

As in previous years, samples of milk have been taken at regular intervals from the various schools in the area, which are supplied by three different distributors.

Twenty-eight such samples were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination by the methylene blue and phosphatase tests, and all were found to be satisfactory.

ICE CREAM

During the year thirty-nine samples of ice cream were sent to the Public Health Laboratory for examination by the methylene blue reduction test. Details of the results of these examinations are as follows :—

<i>Grade</i>								<i>No. of Samples</i>
I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
II	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

There are ninety-nine premises where ice cream is stored or sold, and a total of 224 visits were made to such premises during the year.

PET SHOPS

The six premises licensed under the Pet Animals Act, 1951, were visited and inspected during the year. All were found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition and the licences were renewed.

One shops sells fish only and the others sell birds, mice, rabbits, reptiles and tortoises in addition to fish; in no instance do these pet shops sell dogs or cats.

In one shop it was considered that there was overcrowding of birds in cages. The matter was investigated and referred to the

Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. After having the premises under observation on several occasions the Society prosecuted the proprietor concerned.

DISINFECTION

When required steam disinfections are carried out at the Council's plant at Cowley Mill Road following the occurrence of certain diseases. The installation has again been inspected by the Council's insurers and found to be maintained in good working order.

Home disinfections have been carried out following the occurrence of certain infectious and other specified diseases.

DISINFESTATION

During the year under review ten occupied private or Council dwelling houses, which were found to be bug infested, were disinfested.

The spraying of unoccupied Council houses was continued and during the year 204 new houses and 132 vacant houses were treated.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

As in previous years, the many watercourses, lakes, ponds, ditches, etc., throughout the District were treated with a larvaecide.

The material used is manufactured specifically for mosquito control, and it is considered that some relief from this summer pest is afforded the residents in the area.

RODENT CONTROL

The rodent control section of the Public Health Department continued to operate, and works of disinfestation were carried out at factories, wholesale depots, business premises and private dwelling-houses. Works were also carried out at the Council's refuse tip, depots and premises.

The majority of the infestations investigated on business and private premises were found to be of minor character.

In continuance of the treatment of sewers first carried out in 1944 and repeated each year, two further maintenance treatments of the sewers in the town area of Uxbridge and the outer areas of the district were carried out in May and October, 1954. Systematic baiting and poisoning campaigns took place and all areas of infestation detected were dealt with.

PATHOLOGICAL WORK

Material requiring pathological examination is sent to the Neasden Public Health Laboratory, but in certain instances this has been submitted to the Central Public Health Laboratory at Colindale.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

There is close co-operation between the personal health services provided by the Middlesex County Council and the environmental health services of the Borough Council, as the Borough Medical Officer of Health is also the Area Medical Officer supervising the personal health services on behalf of the County Council.

An outline of the County Council services is given below:—

CLINICS

Central Hillingdon, British Legion Hall, Uxbridge Road	... ..	1, 2, 4, 7
Hillingdon, Oak Farm Clinic, Long Lane		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9
Harefield, St. Mary's Church Hall	... ..	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
Ickenham Church Hall	... ..	1, 4
Uxbridge Clinic, Local County Offices, High Street	... ..	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10

Mobile Clinic attends—

Cowley Recreation Ground	... ..	1, 4
Violet Farm Estate	... ..	4

KEY TO SERVICES PROVIDED

1. Child Welfare	6. Ophthalmic
2. Ante-Natal	7. Post-natal
3. School Minor Ailments	8. Dental
4. Immunisation and Vaccination	9. Orthodontic
5. Speech Therapy	10. Orthopædic

Times and days of various sessions may be obtained on enquiry at any of the Clinics or to the Area Health Office, Local County Offices, High Street, Uxbridge. Uxbridge 8290.

HEALTH VISITING.

The service makes available practical advice on all matters relating to the health of the family. Qualified Health Visitors, who are also School Nurses, are in attendance at clinic sessions and also visit homes where there are babies and young children.

DAY NURSERIES

All enquiries concerning applications for admission to Day Nurseries should be addressed to the Area Medical Officer, Area Health Office, Local County Offices, High Street, Uxbridge.
High Street Day Nursery, Uxbridge.

MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING SERVICES

MIDWIVES.

The following midwives practice in the Borough :—

Miss I. Bailey (District Nurse/Midwife), 45, Park Lane, Harefield (Harefield 2233).

Miss E. Johnson, 143, Tudor Road, Hayes (Hayes 1406).

Miss I. Gardner, 74, Halford Road, Ickenham (Uxbridge 4389).

Miss J. Reed, 18, Churchill Avenue, Hillingdon (Uxbridge 3913).

Mrs. K. M. Griffin, 8, Churchill Avenue, Hillingdon (Uxbridge 2679).

HOME NURSES.

The following home nurses practice in the Borough :—

Harefield

Miss I. M. Bailey, 45, Park Lane, Harefield (Harefield 2233).

Uxbridge

Mrs. E. M. Galley, "Wardley," Warren Road, Uxbridge (Uxbridge 4775).

Cowley

Miss V. M. Colchester, 20, Morgans Lane, Hayes End (Hayes 0124).

Hillingdon

Mrs. B. D. Galley, 12, Churchill Avenue, Hillingdon (Uxbridge 2895).

Ickenham

Mrs. L. McKee, 43, Herlwyn Avenue, Ruislip (Ruislip 6205).

HOME HELP SERVICE

All enquiries concerning this service should be made to the Area Health Office, Uxbridge.

Home Help is provided in cases where an emergency arises owing to illness in the home and in cases of confinement taking place at home. Payment for this service is assessed according to income.

PRIVATE MIDWIVES AND PRIVATE NURSING HOMES

The names and addresses of Private Midwives and Private Nursing Homes can be supplied on application to the Area Health Office, Uxbridge.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Diphtheria immunisation, whooping cough immunisation and vaccination will usually be carried out by family doctors. In addition, provision for these procedures is available at the various County Council Clinics.

CHIROPODY

A chiropody clinic for nursing and expectant mothers and children up to the age of five years, is held at Minet Clinic, Cold-harbour Lane, Hayes, on Friday, at 1.30 p.m. Attendance by appointment only.

SOME OTHER SERVICES AND GENERAL INFORMATION AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service is administered by the Middlesex County Council Fire and Ambulance Service. In an emergency the Ambulance Service can be called by telephoning "999" or "0" and asking for Ambulance Service. Other enquiries should be made to Fire and Ambulance Service Headquarters, Harrow Road, Wembley (Telephone No. WEMbley 1121 or 4861) or *local Fire Station*.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

For the care of all children deprived of normal home life, adoptions, Child Life Protection, residential nurseries, etc.

Area Children's Officer, No. 8 Area:

F. W. Clay, Local County Offices, High Street,
Uxbridge (Uxbridge 8290).

WELFARE DEPARTMENT

For the care and supervision of the aged and infirm and their effects; the supervision and assistance to the blind and other severely handicapped adults.

Area Welfare Officer, No. 8 Area:

A. E. Mansell, Local County Offices, High Street,
Uxbridge (Uxbridge 8290).

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Mental Welfare Officers (Duly Authorised), Local County Offices,
High Street, Yiewsley (West Drayton 2431 and 2531).

Divisional Mental Welfare Officer:

A. G. Ash, 69, Helen Avenue, Feltham (FELtham 2096).

Psychiatric Social Worker:

Miss M. Bosanquet, Local County Offices, High Street,
Yiewsley.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.

Psychiatrist :

W. Robson, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M., Child Guidance
Clinic, 255, High Street, Uxbridge (Uxbridge 8290).

NORTH KENSINGTON WOMEN'S WELFARE CENTRE

Branch Clinic (Birth Control and Gynaecology) :

Uxbridge Clinic, Local County Offices, High Street,
Uxbridge. Thursday 1.45-2.45 p.m. ; 5.30-6.30 p.m.

THE UXBRIDGE DEANERY ASSOCIATION FOR MORAL WELFARE WORK

Deanery Worker :

Miss L. G. Polman, St. Andrew's Church Hall, Hillingdon
Road, Uxbridge (Uxbridge 2208). Monday to Fridays
10 a.m.-12 noon.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES.

Uxbridge Registration District, Superintendent Registrar :

Miss E. K. O'Keefe, Local County Offices, Uxbridge
(Uxbridge 8290).

Uxbridge Registration Sub-District, Registrar of Births and Deaths :

G. Hardcastle, Local County Offices, Uxbridge (Uxbridge
8290).

Hillingdon Hospital, Royal Lane, Hillingdon :

Mrs. H. Burke (Uxbridge 6490).